



30- SECOND ELEVATOR SPEECH

- Alaska's English language arts and math standards will have new assessments starting in spring 2015 – the Alaska Measures of Progress, or AMP.
- Initial results from AMP will provide a new baseline for a new goal: that we graduate students who do not need remediation in English and math in the workplace or postsecondary education and training.
- Alaskan educators will review AMP items for clarity, relevance, and bias.
- They will help define achievement levels and set threshold scores.
- Alaska educators will help decide which high school standards will be tested in grades 9 & 10.
- Alaskans, including educators, will write text passages for the language arts test.
- AMP assessments are not pass/fail.
- Student scores do not affect graduation, classroom grades, or grade retention.
- Rather, AMP helps educators and parents identify which students need more support.
- As well, AMP helps the state and districts identify which schools need improvement plans.
- In subjects and grades for which AMP assessments are directly relevant, growth in student achievement plays a partial role in evaluating principals and teachers.

SCHEDULE

- Students in grades 3 through 10 will take one English/language arts and one math AMP assessment aligned to Alaska's standards between Monday, March 30 - Friday, May 1. Districts will have flexibility in how to schedule the tests.

COMPUTER-BASED

- AMP will be delivered on desktops (Windows, Mac & Linux), laptops, and iPad tablets.

ENGAGEMENT

- AMP items will require deeper thinking and fewer bubbles to fill in. The computerized AMP will use engaging features such as drop-and-drag, plotting points on a graph, or highlighting text.

TECHNOLOGY PRACTICE TESTS

- Practice tests for students to learn how to use the computer's tools and technology enhanced items are now available.

TESTLETS

- Starting in January 2015, teachers will have access to short classroom tests that can be used to inform instruction and learning, as well as help students become more familiar with AMP.